

## Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-04 SCCT-01 MC-01 AID-05 OPR-01 SCS-03

USSS-00 OCE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /067 W

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R 052205Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8726

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

DIA DOD WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 8130

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, PINT, AR

SUBJECT: AFTERMATH OF VILLAR ASSASSINATION

REF: BUENOS AIRES 8077

1. EX-FEDERAL POLICE CHIEF VILLAR BURIED NOV 2 WITH FULL HONORS. FUNERAL SERVICES ATTENDED BY MRS. PERON, LASTIRI, ROCAMORA, SAVINO AND OTHER LEADING FIGURES. MAGARIDE, WHO AT THAT TIME STILL DEPUTY CHIEF, DELIVERED EULOGY IN WHICH HE PROMISED TO BRING GUILTY PARTIES TO JUSTICE AND CLEAN UP TERRORISM IN QUICK ORDER.

2. EMBASSY PRIVATELY AND VERBALLY EXTENDED CONDOLENCES TO GOA THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY'S NORTH AMERICAN DESK.

3. MAGARIDE'S APPOINTMENT AS NEW CHIEF ON NOV 4 (SEE REFTEL) CAME AS A DISTINCT DISAPPOINTMENT TO MILITARY, RADICALES AND MODERATE PERONISTS. MILITARY HAD HOPED FOR APPOINTMENT OF MORE INDEPENDENT, COMPETENT FIGURE. THEY HAD ALSO HOPED THAT NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (KILLED SOME MONTHS BACK BY LOPEZ REGA) MIGHT BE RESURRECTED AND POSSIBLY RETIRED OR  
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ACTIVE DUTY GENERAL OFFICER PLACED IN CHARGE. THIS IS STILL

A POSSIBILITY. MRS. PERON REPORTEDLY IS DISCUSSING SECURITY COUNCIL IDEA WITH ADVISORS. IN CEREMONIES ATTENDING HIS INSTALLATION, MARGARIDE REPORTEDLY DOWNPLAYED IDEA, SAYING COUNCIL WAS UNNECESSARY. THIS WAS SEEN MORE AS AN INDIRECT DIG AT MILITARY, HOWEVER, THAN AS A MEASURED COMMENT.

4. RADICALES ARE PRIVATELY EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER APPOINTMENT MARGARIDE, WHO IS BELIEVED TO BE PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR PLACING NAMES OF SOME UCR LEGISLATORS ON AAA DEATH LIST. SENATOR PERETTE, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS LONG STANDING PERSONAL FEUD WITH MARGARIDE AND THIS IS BELIEVED TO HAVE LED TO INCLUSION OF FORMER (WHO IS NO LEFTIST).

5. MODERATE PERONISTS ARE DISAPPOINTED BECAUSE THEY HAD HOPED TO SEE SOMEONE OTHER THAN A LOPEZ REGA SUPPORTER GET THE JOB. MARGARIDE, ON CONTRARY, IS EVEN CLOSER TO LOPEZ REGA THAN WAS VILLAR.

6. ABOVE AND APART FROM THESE INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS IS MORE DISTURBING FACT THAT MARGARIDE HAS REPUTATION OF BEING SOMETHING OF A WILD MAN, LONG ON THE KNOUT AND SHORT ON COMPETENCE. HAVING A WEAK CHIEF OF POLICE IS A LUXURY ARGENTINA CANNOT LONG AFFORD AT THIS CRUCIAL JUNCTURE.  
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## Message Attributes

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